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Hopper On History

Strange Lights, Upton Turtle Story Recalled

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UPTON — Sometime early in May, 1938, a group of young residents of Upton Center found they had hiked into the North Upton woods. Being tired, they rested on a stone wall for a half hour as darkness came.

Suddenly, one of the group noticed a strange light above the trees. A white luminous object seemed to drift skyward lazily. Then it broke into a blinding white light and disappeared.

The young men plunged into the heavy brush. After going about a mile, they saw the lights going upward and spaced about one minute apart. As they watched this spectacle, they saw about 25 lights go up with scarcely one second between each one, and then they stopped.

The men continued another half mile to what they believed to have been the site of the strange activity. They were in a smoky area, and it was heavy with a strange scent, which none of the hikers could identify.

When they arrived back home late that night, their faces and hands were scratched and their clothing was torn from the heavy underbrush.

Although the young men returned to the same area the following night accompanied by other people, no signs of the strange lights were seen then, or since.

CR: B. Greenwood